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standing of *materia medica*, physiology and cookery. Then too the subject comes to the pupil in such readable and entertaining fashion, that the dullest intellect could not fail to be attracted and spurred on to acquire further knowledge of the subject.

One is struck by this vivid contrast of old and new methods in teaching. The old way was to stuff the pupil nurse with a certain number of facts, but to destroy all desire for following up the subject, which was most undesirable, tending to produce the overtrained nurse. It is a good sign of the times to find a man of Professor Ottenberg's standing in the medical fraternity in line with those who desire better educational opportunities for nurses.

GENERAL NURSING. By Eva C. E. Luckes, Lady of Grace of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Matron to the London Hospital. Author of "Hospital Sisters and Their Duties." Ninth Edition. E. P. Dutton and Company, New York. \$1.75.

It is not often that a text book survives for thirty years and retains its usefulness. That the present volume has done so and comes to us, in its ninth edition, thoroughly up-to-date in technical information, is ample testimony to the broadness and liberality of the mind of its author, who has taken immense pains to have her book made usable and practical to nurses in training at the present time. To this end she has made use of the highest authorities in science in England, much of the new text being furnished by men whose names are followed by academic degrees. The thoughtful reader will not be impressed by the fact that the author can command such aid nor by the subject matter they contribute, so much as by the high ethical standard that the author has preserved through thirty-eight years of nurse training.

In 1898 she wrote:

My hope for the future of Trained Nurses, and for the advancement of Trained Nursing, lies in the conviction that the relative value of personal character and technical knowledge will be duly recognized as time goes on. Everything which tends in the opposite direction will inevitably hinder progress.

The vital importance of character and the due—not the undue—importance of technical knowledge cannot be too strongly insisted upon. They must be so happily combined that, on leaving her hospital every Trained Nurse will be *rich in what she has to give*, and will be loved and respected accordingly.

In the preface to the ninth edition she says that after sixteen years she can add nothing except the added strength that has come to her convictions, "that if a nurse is to be worthy of her calling her work

must be inspired with the right spirit of nursing, i.e., of active sympathy with suffering, manifested by unwearied kindness and unselfish devotion to the patients entrusted to her care."

How cheering and encouraging to meet such a spirit in one who is still in the field—after nearly forty years of fighting for the preservation of the ethical spirit in nurse training.

CALIFORNIA AND THE FAR WEST: Suggestions for The West Bound Traveller. By K. E. M. Dumbell. James Pott and Company, New York. Price 75 cents.

This book appears opportunely since in spite of many deterrent happenings the Panama-Pacific International Exposition of 1915 seems to be assured. It does not claim to be historic like the Baedeker of world-wide fame, but offers suggestions for including as much as one may of the wonderful scenery of the far west in one transcontinental trip.

First of all the prospective traveller is assisted in the choice of a route; a difficult matter, because each of the three different ways suggested offer many attractions and one is anxious to see them all. Having made a choice, the next thing is to get just as much as possible out of it, missing nothing by the way, which the author makes easy. The book includes a map of the far west and a list of reliable hotels.